



FOUNDATIONS OF LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

STUDENT GUIDE TO ENGLISH 9



MISS SARAH DETRICK

Westerville South High School

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Room 102

GOALS/ EXPECTATIONS:

Welcome to a new year at Westerville South High School! As your student's English teacher, I have high expectations for his/her growth over the next year. It is my goal to ensure competence in completing work, inspire students to take responsibility for their actions and work, help foster integrity and perseverance in the face of adversity, challenge students to have courage in sharing their thoughts, history and dreams, and most of all encourage the pursuit of knowledge inside and outside of school, textbooks and the Westerville community. I hope to introduce your student to places, stories and experiences they have yet to explore in order to reach these goals. Together we will form a community of learners and assist each other in the discovery of new ideas.

COURSE INFORMATION:

Level: 9th Grade

Length: 1 year, 1 period

Credit: 1.0

Approximate Cost: Up to \$30 for paperback books and periodicals (not to be collected at school)

Foundations of Literature and Composition is intended for all ninth-grade students. A variety of genres of literature serve as the central focus for language study. Emphasis includes the development of listening, speaking, reading, writing, visual and technological literacy skills. Modern and classical literary works, including fiction and nonfiction, are studied to encourage a variety of approaches to literature. This course counts as one credit toward graduation requirement.

GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, students should know and be able to...

- Use vocabulary in the context of reading literature and writing about literature.
- Read for understanding and to make connections.
- Read and interpret a variety of literary forms: novels, short stories, poetry, drama, essays, articles, biographies, and autobiographies.
- Produce a variety of writing including narratives, responses to literature, business letters, informational essays, persuasive compositions, and informal writings.
- Apply effective research techniques to locate, evaluate, utilize, and document credible and relevant information.
- Communicate orally in a variety of forms, analyzing and preparing for a variety of speaking and listening situations.

LITERATURE:



Elements of Literature Third Course

Short Stories

Heroes, Gods and Monsters of the Greek Myths by Bernard Evslin

The Odyssey by Homer

Tuesdays With Morrie by Mitch Albom

Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson

Independent reading novels to be selected by student

Other novels to be determined according to interest

GRADING AND ASSESSMENT POLICIES

Grades are determined by points.

Students will have regular homework assignments, but the amount, type, and frequency will vary with each unit.

Students may also expect unannounced quizzes.

Students will be expected to keep an English notebook/folder. I will suggest a way to organize materials. Students will need to keep all graded and returned papers.

Students can also find helpful information on our course website: Class Website: <http://missdetrick.wikispaces.com/>. Homework, extra handouts, long-term assignments and other helpful links can be found on this site. If there is something you'd like added, please e-mail Miss D!

PowerSchool

Student grades will be recorded in PowerSchool. Students and parents are encouraged to check grades periodically. Grades will not be updated daily, but rather weekly (larger assignments such as projects or formal papers may take longer). You can access the PowerSchool website through the Westerville City Schools website at www.westerville.k12.oh.us. The link is in the very top toolbar.

Because grades are posted online, I will not give students grade updates during class time but will be happy to make arrangements to meet with them after school.

Students may receive help from the teacher by contacting the teacher as to what times are available after school. Extra help is encouraged for any student! English tutors may also be available during study halls depending on the period.

ATTENDANCE POLICIES

Students must attend and participate in all classes.

Students are expected to enter the classroom in an orderly manner, and be in their seats and working when the bell rings.

Attendance will be taken each day at the beginning of the period.

Students who arrive late without a pass will receive a warning for the first offense. The second and subsequent tardy offenses will result in detentions. Anyone arriving more than 5 minutes late without a pass will automatically be assigned a detention. Students arriving after 15 minutes without a pass will be turned in for a class cut.

Previously *excused* absent students should see the folders for handouts on the assignment board. Additionally, students should check the assignment board for the day's activities. Students should check for this before coming to the teacher with questions. It is the responsibility of the student to make sure they receive any missing work. Students will have the same number of days to make-up work, as they have been absent from school. For example, if a student misses three days of class, they will have three days to make up any homework or assignments that were missed. I will arrange extra time with students, if necessary, on an individual basis. Students should be sure to write "Absent" along with the dates absent at the top of their make-up work, as to not be penalized for the late work. Students must arrange to take tests/quizzes that they missed with the teacher. Generally make-ups will only be given after school from 2:15-3pm. Make-up tests and quizzes need to be made up immediately or the student will receive a zero! Long-term assignments have firm deadlines. No extra time will be given to students who miss prior to a long-term due date. For example: if a student misses the day before a long-term assignment is due but has known about the assignment for multiple weeks, he/she will not be given extra time to complete the project. It will be due upon their return to school.

CLASSROOM RULES



1. Be respectful and be polite to *all* people.
2. Bring all needed materials to class and be in your seat and ready to work when the bell rings.
3. Respect other people's property, including the school's property.
4. Make a determined effort to learn.
5. Obey all school rules. (Cell phones in hand= in use. Cell phones in use will be confiscated and taken to the office for parent pick-up. Student will also receive a detention.)

*****Obeying the rules will result in verbal and written acknowledgements (such as Cats with Class or W.O.W. cards) from the teacher. The class can also receive awards such as no weekend homework!**

If classroom rules are broken:

- 1st offense: Verbal warning and yellow warning card placed on student's desk
- 2nd offense: Detention after school, a call home, and red card placed on student's desk
- 3rd offense: Referral to the office

Any severe disruption of class or insubordination will result in an immediate trip for the student to the office for administrative discipline.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated, and will be dealt with severely and according to the rules/regulations of WSHS. Any student caught engaging in any form of cheating or plagiarism will receive an F for that assignment (this includes homework, in-class assignments and any other academic work). Repeat offenders will be referred to the administration for further discipline. Please be advised that knowingly allowing another student to cheat off your work is also considered cheating, and will receive the same disciplinary action.

PROCEDURES



1. Beginning-of-class:
 - Pick up handouts on front table
 - Take out English materials (paper, pencil, folder, assignment book, and English text)
 - Begin working on daily warm-up
 - Students should be in their seat and working quietly when the bell rings
 - Not following these procedures will result in disciplinary action (see classroom rules)
2. Out of Class:
 - Students are expected to remain in class for the entire period.
 - Students must have their school issued ID and school issued handbook to leave the room.
 - Students should make every effort to ask the teacher to leave the classroom before class starts.
 - Habitual use of hall passes for the restroom and water fountain will not be tolerated.
3. End-of-class:
 - Students will begin clean up on my instruction, a few minutes before the bell is to ring. Clean-up includes: returning all materials and equipment, and picking up any trash that is on the floor/desks. Clean-up must be completed before students may leave.
 - I will announce any important things due the next day before dismissal.
 - Students should copy homework assignments from the board into their planner.
 - Students will leave at my dismissal, not the sound of the bell.
4. Materials and Equipment:
 - Students must bring all needed materials as described in the course materials section.
 - No food or drink in the classroom.
 - Pencil sharpener may be used only before the tardy bell or when the teacher is not presenting material to the whole class. One student at the pencil sharpener at a time.
 - Computer and projector are off limits unless permitted to use by the teacher.
 - Teacher's desk and items on or in desk are always off limits.

Wow Cards/ Cats with Class:

Students can be recognized for good behavior at South!

Vocabulary:

Review ACT/SAT vocabulary each week! Extra credit will be given for finding the words in context outside of class.

Online Textbook:

Students can access their textbook online at my.hrw.com. They will need to register with their username and password given in class.

Assignment Board:

Every day assignments we will be working on and homework for the night are written down. Please use a planner to keep track of your work!

SUPPLIES NEEDED:



- Folder designated for English only
- Notebook paper- college ruled
- Black or blue pen and pencil
- Highlighter
- Student planner (for logging and keeping track of assignments)
- ½" 3-ring view binder (capable of inserting a cover page into clear cover)- to be kept in the classroom
- Flash (USB) Drive- Can be purchased at any office supply store, or places like Target, Walmart, Walgreen's etc. Prices range from \$1.00 and up depending on the size of the drive. A 1GB Flash drive is more than adequate. This will be helpful for all classes *throughout* your student's four years in high school.
- Independent reading novel selected by student and approved by Miss Detrick or Mrs. King
- Up to \$30 for paperback books (not collected at school). I highly recommend purchasing these books online from places such as amazon.com, half.com (powered by eBay), or Barnes and Noble (bn.com). These sites offer used books from as low as \$0.47! As always, Half Price Books in Westerville is also a good place to look for a good deal. If you buy online, try to package all together for reduced shipping costs too!
 - Books that are required for purchase include:
 - *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson (to be used 4th quarter)
 - One additional novel to be determined by interest
- If you have trouble obtaining any of these materials please send me an e-mail!



Because of the spread of germs and the threat of the flu season looming, we are in need of tissues and hand sanitizer. If possible, please donate a box of tissues and/or a bottle of hand sanitizer for use in this classroom. Thank you!

SIGNATURES



Parents and Students: please sign and return by **Friday, August 19th, 2011. – 10 points!**

Students: I have read and understand the rules, responsibilities, and procedures of Miss Detrick's English class. I agree to follow the guidelines and procedures set forth in this packet.

Signature of Student Date

Parent/Guardian: I have read and understand the rules, responsibilities, and procedures of Miss Detrick's English class. If I have any questions, concerns or problems, I will contact Miss Detrick at school at (614) 797-8006 between the hours of 2:15 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. or by e-mail (detricks@wcsoh.org). E-mail is preferred method of contact.

Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

Occasionally I may need to contact you directly about your student's performance in my class. Please provide the following information so we can ensure the success of your child in my class this year!
Thank you!

PARENT AND STUDENT CONTACT INFORMATION 2011-2012

Student Name: _____ Class Period: _____

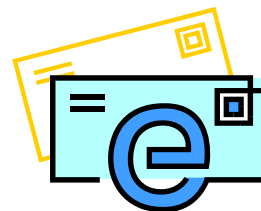
Parent Names: _____

Address: _____

Phone Numbers: Home- _____

Cell- _____

Work- _____



Parent E-mail: _____

Student E-mail: _____

Best way to contact you (including time): _____

Any other helpful information: _____

* If you have trouble obtaining any of the materials listed in the syllabus please send me an e-mail!

* In addition, a donation of a box of tissues will help with the allergy, cold and flu seasons ahead! Thank you!